

SESSION OF 2002

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2770**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Appropriations

**Brief\***

HB 2770, as amended, would transfer \$100,000 for FY 2003 from the State General Fund to the Persian Gulf War Health Initiative Fund within the Commission on Veterans' Affairs. The bill would also allow the agency to use these funds to conduct or fund research on Gulf War illness. Under current law, expenditure requirements do not allow for the conducting or funding of research.

**Background**

The Kansas Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Initiative, a project of the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, was approved by the Kansas Legislature in 1997. The Kansas project has completed a scientific study of 2,000 Kansas Gulf War veterans and the results of the study were published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

Testifying in support of HB 2770 were Representative Thimesch, the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, and a number of Gulf War veterans. There was no testimony in opposition to the bill.

The House Committee on Appropriations amended the bill to change the funding mechanism for the program. The bill as introduced required the first \$100,000 in registration fees for military license plates to be credited to the Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Initiative Fund within the Commission on Veterans' Affairs. The amended bill transfers the funding from the State General Fund. The Governor's FY 2003 budget recommendation for the agency does not include funding for the program.

A fiscal note on the amended version of the bill was not available.

---

\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.accesskansas.org/legislature/>

2-2770